

## Iowa Joint Operator Certification and Training Coordination Committee

*Friday, May 19, 2006 – IAMU Office, Ankeny, Iowa*

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### Meeting Minutes

#### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jon Martens at 10:00 a.m.

*Present were:*

• Dale Acheson, IAWWA	• Steve Mrstik, KCC
• Alan Borden, IAWWA	• Harris Seidel, IWPCA
• Jane Enfield, IDNR	• Laurie Sharp, IDNR
• Marty Hoffert, IAWWA	• Jill Soenen, IAMU
• Steve Hopkins, IDNR	• Jim Stricker, IWPCA
• Rhonda Guy, IRWA	• Jim Utter, IWPCA
• Marty Kunkel, IAMU	• Mike Wildung, IRWA
• Jon Martens, IAWWA	

Visitors: Steve Moehlmann, ACEOPS

#### 2. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Marty Hoffert, seconded by Alan Borden, to adopt the agenda as distributed by e-mail a week earlier. Motion carried.

[NOTE: An agenda can be obtained from any Joint Committee member within the three days preceding a meeting of the Joint Committee.]

#### 3. Approval of March 17, 2006 Minutes

Moved by Jim Stricker, seconded by Jill Soenen, to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion carried.

#### 4. Public Comment

None.

#### 5. Unfinished Business/Assignments

##### a. Draft Form Questions and Comments to the Joint Committee

Rhonda Guy volunteered to draft a press release to be distributed to all relevant organizations providing basic information on the Joint Committee and outlining ways in which operators and others could bring questions and comments to the committee's attention.

##### b. Five-Year Strategic Plan

Laurie Sharp attended an EPA/ASDWA Capacity Development/Operator Certification Workshop in Indianapolis in early May. She made a presentation on our Iowa Strategic Plan which received high marks from those attending. With the two additions suggested, EPA intends to use our plan as a model document for other programs. Laurie distributed a draft of the two issues to be added; namely, reinforcement of training (which could be paired with our SI IV) and promotion of capacity development which could be a new SI X.

The secretary was asked to prepare and circulate a first draft of the appropriate additions to our Strategic Plan to all Joint Committee members ASAP, insist they comment in return, then have a final draft available for a vote by the Joint Committee at the July 21 meeting.

##### c. Artistic Name Cards

Rhonda Guy had completed this assignment, and the distinctive name cards were in place. Nicely done! Thanks, Rhonda.

**d. NTK Subcommittee Progress Report**

This project is being completed by staff and is intended to go on the IDNR web site in August.

**6. New Business**

None.

**7. Representative Comments**

**a. IDNR**

Steve Hopkins expressed appreciation on behalf of IDNR to the Strategic Plan Update Work Group for a job well done, noting especially that it was done by volunteers.

Interactive Web Page. IDNR has RFPs out to develop an interactive web page which would make information on operator certification and operators' records available to anyone. Any operator or city official could search the site and e-mail questions and comments back to IDNR. The primary purpose of this web site is to improve communication. It should also help cut down on telephone calls to staff which now represent a very heavy phone load.

New Drinking Water Rules. Staff have conducted training programs recently on the new drinking water rules, the Stage 2 Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBP) and the Long-Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2). These rules are quite detailed and will require more sampling.

Pressure Loss Events. Questions have risen regarding pressure loss events. When is an event serious enough to require notification and to whom? Rather than develop a rule, IDNR staff are preparing a presentation on this issue which will be included in Regional meeting programs over the next year.

Heat Pumps. Russ Tell, IDNR's private well program specialist, is leading a committee working on a separate set of rules which will govern the installation of heat pumps. Under current rules, IDNR now regulates only heat pumps which are drilled 20 feet or deeper (most are). The main point of regulation is to avoid contamination of groundwater.

**b. IAMU**

Jill Soenen reported that the last Cross-connection Control Workshop will be held in Atlantic on May 25. A series of six Sampling Techniques and Plan Development Workshops will run from June 1 through June 15.

**c. IAWWA**

The joint Fall Short Course has been scheduled for September 12 and 13 at the Sheraton in West Des Moines. The Iowa Section Annual Conference will be held in Council Bluffs October 4, 5, and 6.

**d. IRWA**

Rhonda Guy noted that the IRWA Equipment Expos are scheduled for May 22 and 23 in Council Bluffs and June 5 and 6 in Iowa City.

**e. ISU**

No representative present.

**f. IWPCA**

Jim Utter announced IWPCA's Annual Conference in Ames June 21, 22, and 23. The Water For People Charity Golf Tournament will be held on June 20. Y'all come.

**g. KCC**

Steve Mrstik announced that Larry Trout has left KCC and is now employed in construction and inspection by the City of North Liberty.

Steve also reported that KCC has awarded five Associate degrees in Water Environmental Technology, and at least 25 students are on track toward a degree. Some have already found employment and have lost interest in completing the degree. A number of other students are eligible for certificates. The total number of students is now over 70 which represents steady growth since the launch of the Internet program.

**8. Assignments**

Rhonda Guy – Press release

Harris Seidel – Draft additions to Strategic Plan Update

Staff – NTK Subcommittee progress report

Staff – Status of the Hoffert-McElvogue amendment for Grade IV certification

**9. Next Meeting**

Friday, July 21, 2006, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the IAMU office in Ankeny.

**10. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Mike Wildung; seconded by Marty Hoffert; motion carried. The Joint Committee adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Harris F. Seidel, Secretary